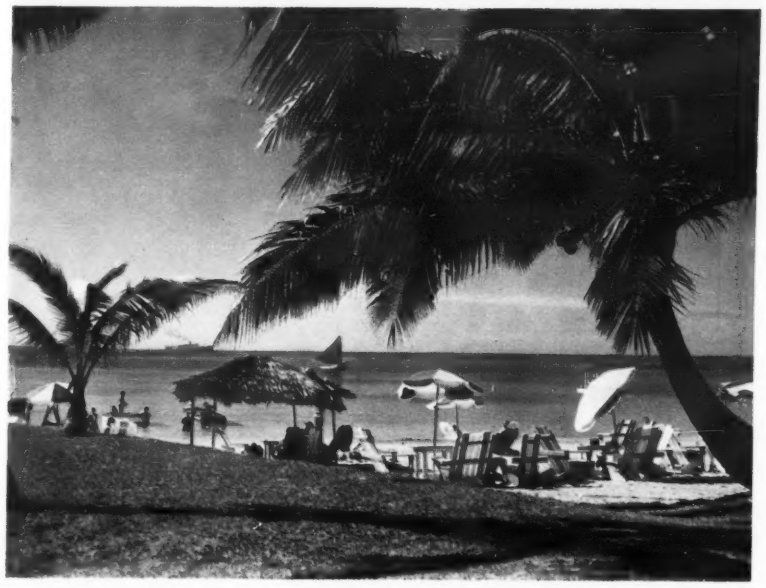
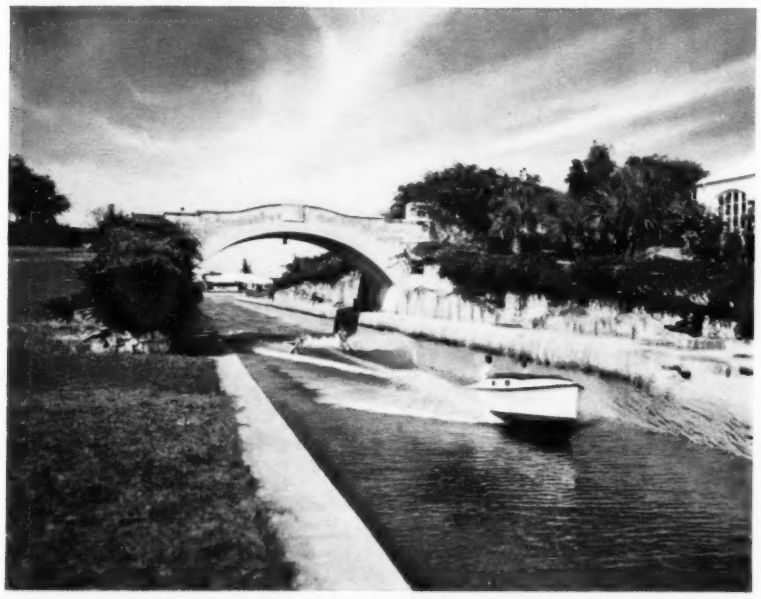
NAMED AFTER QUEEN CHARLOTTE, THE CONSORT OF GEORGE III. : FORT CHARLOTTE, BUILT IN 1788 BY JOHN MURRAY, 4TH EARL OF DUNMORE, THE THEN GOVERNOR OF THE BAHAMAS ; LARGEST OF THE THREE OLD FORTS SURVIVING IN NASSAU.



ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL BEACHES : PARADISE BEACH, ON HOG ISLAND, A TROPICAL ISLAND ACROSS NASSAU HARBOUR, REACHED IN AN 8-MINUTE TRIP BY BOAT FROM PRINCE GEORGE'S WHARF, WHICH IS NAMED AFTER THE LATE DUKE OF KENT.



AN ALL-THE-YEAR-ROUND SPORT OF THE BAHAMAS : THE GLORIOUS FUN OF WATER-SKIING BEING ENJOYED ON THE CANAL IN HOG ISLAND, NASSAU, BAHAMAS. THE ISLAND IS FAMOUS FOR ITS BEACH OF FIRM, WHITE CORAL SAND.

SHOWING ONE OF THE OLD CANNON : THE TERRACE OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NASSAU, WHICH STANDS ON THE TOP OF MOUNT FITZWILLIAM, NAMED AFTER RICHARD FITZWILLIAM, GOVERNOR, 1733-38.

THE CHIEF THOROUGHFARE OF NASSAU, CAPITAL OF THE BAHAMAS, A TOWN WHICH DATES FROM 1729 : A VIEW OF BAY STREET, WHICH RUNS PARALLEL WITH THE SEA FOR THE LENGTH OF THE TOWN.

TYPICAL OF NASSAU'S OLD-WORLD CHARM, LOVELY CLIMATE AND LEISURELY WAY OF LIFE : HORSE-DRAWN VEHICLES WITH, IN THE BACKGROUND, GREGORY'S ARCH. THIS PICTURESQUE STRUCTURE OF CEMENT, COVERED WITH PINK STUCCO, LEADS TO THE SEA.

WHERE PRINCESS MARGARET WILL BE WELCOMED ON FEBRUARY 26: NASSAU, NEW PROVIDENCE, CAPITAL OF THE BAHAMAS.

Princess Margaret was due to reach Trinidad by air on February 1 and on February 5 to fly to Tobago (which is administratively grouped with Trinidad) before embarking in the Royal Yacht for the Windward Islands, to visit Grenada and St. Vincent. Barbados, lying to the east of the Caribbean chain, was scheduled for February 9-12, and on February 14 her Royal Highness is due at Antigua, Leeward Islands, and is to spend a day at St. Kitts, in the same group, before leaving for Jamaica, where she is due on February 19. On February 24, the Royal traveller plans to leave in the Royal Yacht for the Bahamas, and will stay at Nassau, the capital, on New Providence Island, where she will be entertained by H.E. the Governor and C.-in-C., the Earl of Ranfurly, and the Countess of Ranfurly. She is due to leave by B.O.A.C. *Stratocruiser* for home on March 2. Needless to say that a full programme of official engagements of a varied and interesting kind has been arranged for her Royal Highness, and that the dates we give are those provisionally settled in advance.

A BEAUTIFUL BEACH IN TRINIDAD, THE FIRST WEST INDIAN ISLAND WHICH PRINCESS MARGARET ARRANGED TO VISIT : MARACAS BAY, 25 MILES FROM PORT OF SPAIN.

A TYPICAL SCENE IN THE LEEWARD ISLANDS : HARVESTING SUGAR IN ANTIGUA, AN ISLAND WHICH THE PRINCESS HAS ARRANGED TO VISIT ON FEBRUARY 14 AND 15.

PRINCESS MARGARET, sister of the Queen, was due to start her Caribbean Tour (the first Commonwealth journey she has made unaccompanied by any other member of the Royal family) by flying to Trinidad, which she arranged to reach on February 1. Her Royal Highness has planned to visit some of the most romantic parts of the Commonwealth. The British West Indies are an archipelago in the form of a half-circle enclosing the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. Trinidad and Barbados do not properly belong to the Caribbean chain ; and the Bahamas (twenty inhabited and many uninhabited islands and rocks off the south-east cost of Florida) are not strictly part of the West Indies, but for geographical purposes are included in the category. The islands are the summits of a submerged range of mountains, whose continuation is to be found in the peaks of Honduras. They differ in physical characteristics, but the climate in all is marine, and the heat of the lower levels is tempered by breezes. The flora

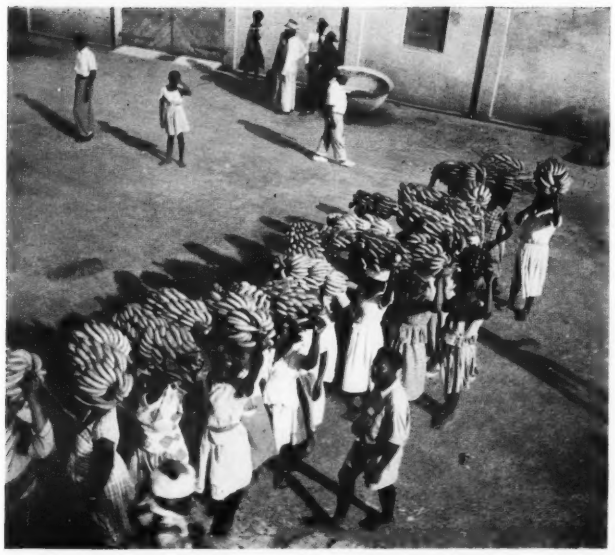
[*Continued opposite.*

A TYPICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT A GARDEN-PARTY IN TRINIDAD ; A SMALL "STEEL BAND" GIVING A PERFORMANCE. THEIR INSTRUMENTS ARE "DRUMS" MADE FROM THE TOP OF PETROL DRUMS.

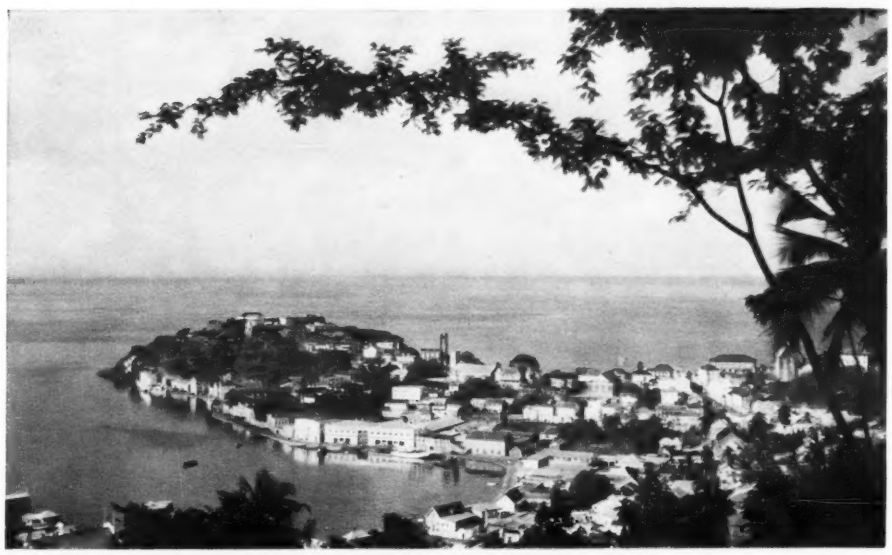
RAFTING DOWN THE RIO GRANDE, IN JAMAICA. IT HAS BEEN ARRANGED THAT THE PRINCESS WILL ENJOY SUCH AN EXCURSION ON FEBRUARY 23.

ON THE ST. JAMES' COAST, BARBADOS, KNOWN AS THE "PLATINUM COAST" ON ACCOUNT OF ITS SILVER SANDS AND LUXURY VILLAS : A TYPICAL HOUSE SET AMID PALMS.

PRINCESS MARGARET'S CARIBBEAN TOUR: SCENES OF FAIRY-TALE BEAUTY AND CO



FORMING A PICTURESQUE GROUP IN THEIR GAY DRESSES: WOMEN OF THE WINDWARD ISLANDS, WITH BANANAS LOADED ON THEIR HEADS.



ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL OF THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS WHICH HER ROYAL HIGHNESS IS VISITING: A VIEW IN GRENADA, WINDWARD ISLANDS, LOOKING TO ST. GEORGE'S FORT ACROSS THE CAPITAL, ST. GEORGE.

SHOWING THE COLOURFUL DRESSES BELOVED BY THE INHABITANTS, AND SO WELL SUITED TO THEIR DARK SKINS; A SCENE IN THE MARKET OF PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD.

Continued.]
is immensely varied, for plants from many parts of the world have been introduced, and now flourish. The mountainous nature of the islands makes it possible for fruits and grains from temperate countries to be grown at the higher altitudes, no great distance from plants indigenous to the tropics. For many centuries sugar-cane and tobacco were the only crops cultivated; now beans, peas, maize and bananas are all grown profitably. Trinidad and Jamaica, both discovered by Columbus, were occupied by the British in 1797 and 1655 respectively. The former was ceded by the Treaty of Amiens in 1802, and possession of the latter confirmed to us by the Treaty of Madrid in 1670. Maracas Bay, described as "the perfect tropical beach of every adventure story," is the favourite *plage* for Port of Spain. The pre-war premier *plage* for the town was included in the American wartime base construction, and the U.S. Army, as a generous gesture, built a 25-mile *corniche* road to Maracas to take its place.

Colour photographs by Anne Bolt.

IN BRIDGETOWN, CAPITAL OF BARBADOS, AN ISLAND LYING EAST OF THE WINDWARD GROUP: A STREET SHOWING THE MODERN CONCRETE BUILDINGS PAINTED IN GAY COLOURS.

SELLING PAW-PAW, SOURSOP, SWEETSOP, BREADFRUIT, MELONS, PINEAPPLES AND OTHER EXOTIC FRUITS: WOMEN AT A MARKET NEAR ST. JOHNS, IN ANTIGUA.

COLOUR IN SOME OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH ISLANDS SHE IS VISITING.

THE MOST PROMINENT FEATURE OF OUR TRADITIONAL COVER: ST. PAUL'S, FULLY REVEALED BY THE BOMBING OF WORLD WAR II. THE CATHEDRAL ITSELF RECEIVED TWO DIRECT HITS.

Since May 1842, when the first copy of *The Illustrated London News* made its appearance, a view of St. Paul's Cathedral has appeared on our cover. To-day that view is different, for bombs and fires of World War II. have destroyed so many buildings in the immediate vicinity of the Cathedral. The emergence of the Dome at dawn after a night's blitz, however, became something of a miracle, a symbol of hope to the people of London. But time, aided by the ravages of war, has brought decay and disruption, requiring costly craftsmanship to repair. Funds, therefore, have to be raised immediately for restoration work if the Cathedral is to be saved from further dilapidation, and the St. Paul's Cathedral Campaign has been launched for this purpose. The sum required—£400,000 capital expenditure and £20,000 a year additional income—is large, but there is every hope that the response will be a generous one. Donations, however small, will be welcomed, and should be sent to the Dean, St. Paul's Cathedral, London, E.C.4.

Colour photograph by A. F. Kersting, F.R.P.S.